



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

### County of Los Angeles

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**Carlos Jackson**

Executive Director

June 1, 2004

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPT RESOLUTION AND AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR 10-YEAR  
EXTENSION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
ZONE PROGRAM (ALL DISTRICTS)  
(3 Vote)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Consider the previously adopted Negative Declaration for this program, find that the program is *de minimus* in its effect on fish and wildlife resources, and find on the basis of the whole record before the Board that there is no substantial evidence the program will have a significant effect on the environment.
2. Adopt and instruct the Chairman to sign a Resolution supporting renewal of the Los Angeles County Recycling Market Development Zone (County RMDZ) for unincorporated Los Angeles County and the cities of Burbank, Carson, Commerce, El Monte, Glendale, South Gate and Vernon; and authorize the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission to submit an application to the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) for a 10-year extension of the County RMDZ.
3. Authorize the transfer of the County RMDZ program administration and all unspent funds generated by membership dues to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW), effective July 1, 2004.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The purpose of this action is to authorize the Commission to apply for a 10-year extension of the County RMDZ program, and to transfer the program and authority to administer the program to the DPW, effective July 1, 2004.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

There is no impact on the County general fund. The County RMDZ operational costs are financed primarily by membership dues from participating cities.

**FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:**

On November 23, 1993, your Board authorized the Commission, on behalf of six unincorporated communities and the cities of Compton, Huntington Park, Lynwood and South Gate, to apply to the CIWMB for designation as the County RMDZ. On January 17, 1995 and May 23, 1995, your Board authorized the Commission to expand the RMDZ program to include all unincorporated communities and the cities of Burbank, Carson, Commerce, Covina, El Monte, Glendale, Montebello, Pasadena, South El Monte and Vernon. The current County RMDZ designation will expire June 30, 2004.

The California RMDZ program is a statewide initiative of the CIWMB to help jurisdictions meet the waste diversion mandates of Assembly Bill 939. The goal of the program is to divert waste materials from landfills to more productive use in the manufacture of new products. CIWMB has designated 40 RMDZ regions in the state.

The RMDZ program provides access to long-term, low-interest financing, technical assistance and free product marketing for firms that use waste products, such as paper, glass and wood, to manufacture new products. Only firms located in a designated RMDZ area are eligible to qualify for RMDZ loans. The County RMDZ serves as a referral center for businesses interested in loans. Financing is provided directly by the CIWMB, which underwrites and services all loans. To date, the County RMDZ program has been the most successful in the state, and has provided \$11,252,500 in loans to 19 companies. A chart of loan activity is attached as Exhibit B.

The application for a 10-year extension of the County RMDZ requires a resolution from each participating jurisdiction, including the County. The cities of Burbank, Carson, Commerce, El Monte, Glendale, South Gate and Vernon have adopted such resolutions and will be provided as part of the application to the CIWMB.

The County RMDZ program was initiated by the Commission with the support and cooperation of the DPW as a waste diversion, recycling and economic development tool.

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
June 1, 2004  
Page 3

At this time, both the Commission and DPW believe the program will be best served if it were administered by DPW, as the RMDZ program would complement DPW's ongoing waste diversion and recycling efforts. The Commission will continue to refer potential customers to the RMDZ program as part of its economic development activities.

The DPW has reviewed and concurred with this letter and is also presenting this matter for the approval of your Board on the current agenda.

County Counsel has approved the Resolution as to form.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:**

The Board of Supervisors adopted a Negative Declaration for this Program on September 12, 1995, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and state and County guidelines. The Commission has determined that transferring the Program from the Commission to Public Works is not a change that would require a new environmental document. Therefore, the Board may consider the previously adopted Negative Declaration before approving the Program transfer as recommended by Public Works. This project is exempt from California Department of Fish and Game fees pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code, since it is *de minimus* in its effect on fish and wildlife resources. After Board approval, the Commission will file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT PROGRAMS:**

Authorization for the Commission to apply for a 10-year extension of County RMDZ will allow for the continuation of a program with both environmental and economic development benefits. Transferring the County RMDZ program to DPW will consolidate County waste diversion and recycling programs within DPW and result in greater effectiveness and efficiency.

Respectfully submitted,

CARLOS JACKSON  
Executive Director

CJ:CC:rms

Attachments: 2  
RMDZ/Extension Application/Board Letter

## **A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SUPPORTING RENEWAL OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT ZONE**

**WHEREAS**, the California Public Resources Code Section 42010 provides for the establishment of the Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program throughout the State to provide economic incentives to stimulate development of post-consumer and secondary materials for recyclables; and

**WHEREAS**, the Los Angeles County RMDZ includes the entire unincorporated area of Los Angeles County and the cities of Burbank, Carson, Commerce, Compton, El Monte, Glendale, Montebello, South Gate and Vernon; and

**WHEREAS**, cities and counties must meet a 50 percent reduction in landfill waste disposal as mandated in the California Integrated Waste Management Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Los Angeles County RMDZ is dedicated to establishing, sustaining and expanding recycling-based manufacturing businesses, which is essential for market development, and assisting local jurisdictions in meeting the established landfill reduction goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the Los Angeles County RMDZ designation will expire June 30, 2004 unless re-designated by the California Integrated Waste Management Board; and

**WHEREAS**, Los Angeles County and the cities of Burbank, Carson, Commerce, El Monte, Glendale, South Gate and Vernon still desire existing and new recycling-based manufacturing businesses operating within the RMDZ region to be eligible for the technical and financial incentives associated with the RMDZ program; and

**WHEREAS**, the renewal of the Los Angeles County RMDZ is still necessary to facilitate local and regional planning, coordination, support of existing recycling-based manufacturing businesses, as well as attracting private sector recycling business investments to the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the current and proposed waste management practices and conditions are favorable to the development of post-consumer and secondary waste materials markets; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Legislature has defined environmental justice as “the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies” [Government Code section 65040.12(e)], and has directed the California Environmental Protection Agency to conduct its programs, policies, and activities that substantially affect human health or the environment in a manner that ensures the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income levels, including minority populations and low-income populations of the state [Public Resources Code section 71110(a)]; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Integrated Waste Management Board, in its Strategic Plan, has adopted a goal to continuously integrate environmental justice concerns into all of the Board's programs and activities; and

**WHEREAS**, an Initial Study (IS) was prepared for this project pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and

**WHEREAS**, based on the conclusions and findings of the IS, a Negative Declaration (ND) was adopted by the County of Los Angeles on September 12, 1995; and

**WHEREAS**, the scope of the project has not changed significantly and the original adopted findings in 1995 still apply; and

**WHEREAS**, approval of the IS/ND and filing a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk satisfies CEQA requirements; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles resolves as follows:

1. Authorize the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles to submit to the California Integrated Waste Management Board a Recycling Market Development Zone renewal application, which includes the County of Los Angeles and the cities of Burbank, Carson, Commerce, El Monte, Glendale, South Gate and Vernon.
2. Agrees to administer the RMDZ program in a manner that seeks to ensure the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures and incomes, including but not limited to soliciting public participation in all communities within the RMDZ.

RESOLVED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 2004 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT OR ABSTAINING:

As witnessed by

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
OFFICE OF COUNTY COUNSEL

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

## Exhibit B

### Loan Count and Amounts by RMDZ Zone

